

READERS' FORUM

Selected short letters and abstracts from longer communications from readers are published when they remain within the bounds of decorum and law and contribute anything of value. Hereafter the name and address of the writer will be given. A pen name will be published on the author's request, and letters to the editor not intended for publication should be marked "personal."

San Francisco, February 16, 1926.

DEAR EDITOR:

I noticed the suggestion in the current (February) issue of the Journal that California members attending the American Medical Association session leave on special trains. I think this an excellent idea and would like to be notified if this is carried out.—William E. Stevens.

DEAR DOCTOR:

This was only a suggestion. I suspect that, if given authority, the railroad people would work up the idea.—Editor.

Chicago, January 20, 1926.

"I have just finished looking over the current number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It seems to me that this journal makes definite improvement each month. In my judgment you are doing a splendid work."—O. W.

TO THE EDITOR:

We wish to thank you for the news item you gave us in the last issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE and assure you we appreciate such helpful service to advertisers. Will you please mail me another copy of the January issue?

NILES HOME FOR THE AGED, J. SHULTS.

Los Angeles, February 17, 1926.

DEAR EDITOR:

Your note relative to my suggestions that the date of the annual meeting be printed on the outside cover is at hand.

I find another memorandum on my desk that I intended to take up with you. It is to the effect that you print on the front cover, perhaps on the bottom of the page, this legend, "For complete index of contents see page —." When one picks up a journal, it is always a distinct convenience to have on the outside cover the reference to the page on which the itemized index can be found.

Along the subject of suggestions, I would call your attention to the back edge of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Some years ago I wrote to George Simmons, suggesting that they print the page numbers of each issue, and this has been done, and it makes for much more ready reference to articles in case one desires to look up a subject. I do not know whether it is so important in a monthly journal like CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, but it might be worthy of consideration at any rate. Cordially yours,

GEORGE H. KRESS.

Note—Both suggestions by Doctor Kress are good ones and will be carried out. Constructive suggestions, calculated to increase the usefulness of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, are always gratefully received.—Editor.

In connection with Dr. John W. Shuman's article about laboratory medicine published in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE some months ago, Dr. William Fletcher, director, Institute for Medical Research at Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, writes:

"I am particularly interested. Our young men are very prone to think that their responsibility ends when they put a specimen in the post box and that they can sit in a chair and wait for the diagnosis to come by next mail."

An optimist is a man who rejoiced in having a wooden leg because he could hold up his socks with thumb tacks.

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

C. B. PINKHAM, M. D., *Secretary*

According to the Los Angeles Express of February 3, 1926, Dr. C. L. Ahrens was the object of a complaint issued by the district attorney's office, charging him with ten counts of failure to report contagious diseases to the health department. "In the event he is found guilty, he will face a sentence of six months in jail or a \$500 fine on each one of the counts."

According to the Pasadena Star News of January 20, 1926, R. H. W. Albrexstondare was brought to Pasadena on January 19 from Santa Ana, where he had completed a six months' term in the county jail following his conviction of a violation of the Medical Practice Act. A similar charge has been pending in Pasadena since March, 1924. A clipping relates: "While the authorities especially delved into Doctor Albrexstondare's asserted claims to several wealthy financial backers that he could 'manufacture' a human body, a figure six inches in length . . . the claims of the Pasadena woman were divulged in the records of the Superior Court. . . . In the court record relating to the suit for the recovery of \$13,800 from the 'doctor' it was revealed that Miss McFadden of Pasadena was represented to have been the alleged victim. . . ."

The "Beauty Specialists" were recently reported to have secured a charter from the state permitting a certain beauty parlor to grant degrees following a course of instruction in the beauty parlor. "For masters of beauty technique we (they) would like a degree M. B. C., meaning master of beauty culture, and for the beginner, the degree B. B. C., meaning bachelor of beauty culture." This perchance is a sequel to the beauty culture bill, which created considerable comment during the last legislative session.

The annual report of the Board of Osteopathic Examiners shows that ninety-seven certificates were issued during the year 1925, forty-nine having been issued to practitioners from other states and Missouri led the list. Pleas of guilty for violation of the Medical Practice Act were reported to have been obtained from G. W. McFadden, P. B. Richards, Los Angeles, and W. F. Zahn, San Diego, while the case against E. V. Bergquist of Fresno was dismissed on his agreement to leave the state. (The records of the Board of Medical Examiners show the drugless practitioner application of Edward V. Bergquist, a graduate of the Universal Sanipractic College, Seattle, was denied.) The report also shows that the "certificate of Edwin A. Leatherwood was revoked by the board on a charge of aiding and abetting an unlicensed person." (The transcript of the hearing of Bishop Wilbert LeRoy Cosper, convicted of violation of the Medical Practice Act in the county of Contra Costa, shows the testimony of E. A. Leatherwood as connected with the case.)

According to the St. Louis Star of December 21, 1925, "Dr. Waldo Briggs, dean and owner of the St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons, the charter of which the state now is seeking to cancel, today lost in the Circuit Court his fight to retain his license to practice medicine in Missouri. . . ."

According to the Santa Ana Register of January 2, 1926, the annual report of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners shows that "for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, the board issued 894 license certificates. . . . A previous board had granted 252, making a total of 1146. The board announces that in the interests of public welfare, it will probe any chiropractic institutions in the state which appear to be 'diploma mills.' If the courts hold that the Chiropractic Act does not delegate such powers to the board, then it will be necessary in the future to more thoroughly investigate each applicant for licensure. . . ." "News items" in a previous issue drew attention to a recent decision by the Superior Court of San Francisco county, holding that the Chiropractic